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SOURCE

Ta Kung Pao.

DISCUSSES ATTITUDE OF CHINESE CHRISTIANS TOWARD COMMUNIST POLICY

Chinese Christian leaders stress independence for the church and severance of all ties with Western imperialism. They proclaim the need to resist US aggression in Korea and China.

A Chinese Christian bewails the church's conservatism and indifference in facing the challenge of a dynamic age, scores the church leaders decadence, and warns against US imperialism and

HANGCHOW CHRISTIANS SIGN COVENANT --- Hong Kong, Ta Kung Pao, 29 Nov 50

At a meeting of Chinese Christian leaders in Hangchow, on 17 November 1950, the patriotic covenant of Christians was thoroughly discussed. All agreed that it is the duty of every Chinese citizen to carry forward the Resist America, Help Korea movement, and Christians cannot be excepted. This group will take the lead in securing signatures to the covenant, the complete text of which is as follows:

"Hangchow Christians, to corress their attitude in the present crisis, especially appeal to fellow wo kers and believers to affirm and obey the following patriotic covenant:

- "1. Resolutely promote the self-government, self-support, self-propagation movement of the church and cut all ties with imperialism.
- "2. Increase their study of current events; expose and snuff out rumors created by US imperialists and secret agents; sweep out pro-American thoughts.
- "3. Beware of subversive acts by US imperialists and secret agents, and maintain constant surveillance.
 - "4. By positive action, support the Resist America, Help Korea movement."

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The above covenant was signed by prominent Protestant leaders in the city including: Ch'iu Chin-ling (1) /numbers refer to appended characters/ pastor of the Hu-shan Church; Fan Kuang-yung (2) and Wang Eri-an (3) pastors of the Ssu-ch'eng Church; Teng Shu-chao (4), member of the Chekiang Office of the Protestant Episcopal Church; Shih T'ien-ming (5), pastor of the Min-chung Church; Chin Chao-hsiung (6), pastor of the T'ai-p'ing Church; Niu Chih-fang (7), assistant general secretary, YMCA; Chung Wen-chuan (8), general secretary, YMCA; Keng Tzu-hua, pastor of the Ku-lou Church; Ts'ai Wen-hao (10), secretary of the Chekiang Church Synod; Chou Chio-mei (11), principal of the Hung-tao Girls' School; Wang Ko-ying (12) evangelist of the China Inland Mission; Peter Han (13), pastor of the Apostolic Faith Mission; Kao Ju-sung (14), pastor of the Chih-shui Protestant Episcopal Church; Wang Ch'ung-k'ang (15), secretary of the Hangchow Christian Council; Wang Chia-fan (16) principal of the Wayland Academy; Joseph Chu (17) principal of the Mary Vaughan Girls' School; and Shu Hung, (18), head of the Physical Education Department, Chekiang University.

CALLS FOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH TO CONFORM -- Hong Kong, Ta Kung Pao, 29 Nov 50

The following is a letter from a Christian, Chung Yo, to the editor of the Ta Kung Pao.

It is a fact that the Christian church is facing the challenge of the age. But Christians do not bravely and cheerfully meet this challenge.

After the liberation, many Christians tried to find items in the Bible that comport with materialism. They said that the Communist system was tried in the time of Jesus, that Jesus was a people's revolutionary, that scrutiny had long been a practice of the church, etc., as if to make out that Christianity is the ancestor of Communism, and as if the Communist Party should learn from Christianity.

In liberated Canton, Christians have no enthusiasm for learning. We have rarely seen Christians paying any attention to the new knowledge. Even if they do, it is by a comparison of Christianity with Marxism-Leninism, or materialism, as if there were any value in that. A comparison demands a thorough knowledge of both objects of comparison. Without any understanding of the new knowledge, how can it be compared with one's old faith?

In any procession or mass assembly, we rarely see Christian groups represented. Christians are members of the church, but they are also citizens of the nation. They have two responsibilities at the same time. We find it very hard to understand why the Christian leaders do not lead their members to participate in these significant parades and assemblies. Is it possible that a Chinese Christian is not counted as a citizen of the Chinese People's Republic? Is he so transcendent as to have no concern even with politics, or that he does not dare to think of qualifying as a citizen?

Not daring to face reality is a common fault among the great majority of Christians. Church officers are so decadent, so obstinate, and so conservative that they resist all change. They look upon the churches as private property, and are even indifferent to social service.

The blame for this state of affairs lies half on the young people, and half on their pastors and evangelists. In fact, many ministers are out of touch with real conditions, and dare not face them. Dreaming old dreams, how can they lead their young people to fall in with the progress of the times, or relate themselves to a socialist nation?

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Some Christians, and a few missionaries, care too little for the religious freedom which the People's government has granted them. They constantly, whether intentionally or not, manifest decadent, backward, and even reactionary actions and words. We must resolutely oppose the church's vile and reckless use of "religious freedom" to destroy faith and harm the fatherland. Still more, we must oppose their allowing US imperialsim or the Chiang bandits to use the churches as spy agencies!

The above are just some of the criticisms that can be leveled against the church. After this public discussion, it is hoped that the church will truly inaugurate severe self-scrutiny.

CHARACTERS

1.邱金陵	10. 蔡 文浩
2. 范光榮	11.周覺昧
3.王楊安	12.王哥英
4.登述昭	13.韓彼得
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